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RUEHDA/AMCONSUL ADANA 1676  
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RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY BAKU 1465  
RUEHTE/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 7832  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0125  
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV 0011  
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0508  
RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU  
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SUBJECT: TURKEY: POL-MIL ROUND-UP, January 2007

(Note: This is one of a regular series of unclassified reports on significant Turkish defense and national security issues in the press and other open sources. End note.)

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#### Turkish Parliament Ratifies EXBS Agreement

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11. The Turkish Parliament ratified on January 24 the Bilateral Agreement on Cooperation to Facilitate the Provision of Assistance for Nonproliferation Purposes (EXBS), which was originally signed on June 14, 2005. The agreement, which was ratified despite the objection of the CHP (Republican Peoples' Party) opposition party, foresees supporting Turkey's efforts to enhance its national export control system, law enforcement, and border security to prevent, deter, detect and interdict illicit trafficking of WMD, missile delivery systems and related dual-use commodities and technology.

#### Budget Share for Defense Reduced to 6.4%

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12. The budget allocated to the Turkish Defense Ministry for the needs of Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) dropped to 6.4% of the General Budget, and 2-2.5% of the Gross National Product. The defense 10.5% to 6.4% of the. Accordxh@ane Carrying Turkish Work-----  
Moldovan-registered aircraft traveling from Adana, Turkey to Balad, Iraq were reported killed on January 9 when the aircraft crashed while trying to land in foggy conditions outside of Balad. The Turkish Foreign Ministry announced that there were 29 Turkish and 1 U.S. passengers aboard, in addition to 4 foreign crew members. Turkish newspapers speculated that the plane might have been brought down. The sole survivor of the incident, a Turkish national, was brought back to Turkey following medical treatment in Iraq.

#### Turkey's Security Relations with Other Countries

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14. Lebanon: On January 3 PM Tayyip Erdogan visited the Turkish Corps of Engineers assigned to UNIFIL in Sur, Lebanon. He was briefed on the troop deployment under the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), according to ANA.

15. Greece: Turkish media reported that Turkish F-16 jets were intercepted five times by Greek military jets on January 8 while flying in international airspace over the Aegean Sea. Responding to journalists' questions on the issue a few days after the 'harassment' incident, Turkish Chief of General Staff (CHOD) Gen Yasar Buyukanit said that, despite this, the two militaries maintain good relations. (Turkish Daily News)

16. Ukraine: CHOD Buyukanit met his Ukrainian counterpart Gen Serguy Kirichenko in Ankara on January 15. No information on the subject of their meeting was made public. Turkish and Ukrainian Naval Forces signed on January 17 a protocol to exchange information and cooperation within the scope of Operation Black Sea Harmony. (Turkish Daily News)

17. Israel: Israeli Police Chief Moshe Karadi met his Turkish counterpart on January 18 in Ankara. No information about the subject of their meeting was made public. (ANA)

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18. Azerbaijan: Turkish media reported that the Azerbaijani government was planning to assign a Turkish general officer as its Deputy Defense Minister. The Turkish general is expected to resume the post in mid-2007 and to hold the duty until 2011. Several dailies wrote that the assignment was similar to the assignment of a retired American colonel as CHOD in Lithuania in 2002. (Note: The Turkish MFA claimed no knowledge of any such arrangement and suggested that perhaps a general officer will be assigned to advise the Azerbaijani defense ministry on a temporary basis. End note.) (moderate pro-Islamic Zaman and moderate pro-Islamic Cihan News Agency)

#### Defense Industry Activity

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19. The Defense Industry Undersecretariat (SSM) announced an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the acquisition of 80 Medium Range Anti-Tank Weapon Systems (MRAWs), 10 missiles per unit (total 800

missiles), tripods, related containers and accessories. The deadline for the RFP is April 30.

¶10. SSM issued a tender for new submarines on January 31. 26 Turkish and foreign companies joined the tender: Amaris from France, Tubitak-MAM, Aydin Yazilim, Elektronik Sanayi A.S. from Turkey, Kongsberg Defence-Aerospace-Naval Systems from Norway, Kollmorgen Corporation-Electro Optical Division from the US, Calzoni Sr. 1-Submarine Systems Department from Italy, BMT Defence Services Limited from Britain, Howaldtwerke-Deutsche Werft GmbH from Germany, Navania from Spain, Aselsan and Roketsan from Turkey, and Tr-Elbit System from Israel.

¶11. TAI-TUSAS signed a contract with Jordanian Air Forces for the modernization of Jordanian F-16 jets. The first F-16 jet will be modernized in October 2007. 12 planes will be renovated in TAI facilities and five others will be modernized in Jordan under the supervision of TAI engineers. The Modernization of 17 F-16 jets will be completed in 41 months.

¶12. Turkish Defense Minister Vecdi Gonul signed on January 25 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Turkey's participation in the production the Joint Strike Fighter (F-35) aircraft. DM Gonul's signature on the MOU in Washington covered a potential initial purchase of 100 F-35s.

¶13. SSM signed on January 31 a project to develop a radar and communications jamming and deception simulator with Turkish Vestel Defense Industries Corp. The project, worth 25 million euro, is to be completed in four years.

WILSON